

**United States Embassy Freetown, Sierra Leone**  
**Security Message for U.S. Citizens**  
**Ebola Virus Disease Transmission Through Sexual Contact**

**October 05, 2015**

The U.S. Embassy in Freetown alerts U.S. citizens to recent guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicating that several male Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) survivors may continue to spread the virus, even after recovering from infection, through the transmission of bodily fluids, primarily through contact with semen. Asymptomatic males may transmit the virus through contact with semen as well. Although it is unclear exactly how long the virus remains in the semen of male EVD survivors, CDC believes it can take between three to nine months. For additional information regarding EVD, please visit the CDC Ebola informational page: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>.

For further information:

- See the State Department's travel website for the Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information for [Sierra Leone](#).
- Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (**STEP**) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Freetown, located at Southridge-Hill Station, Freetown, Sierra Leone, and is open Monday through Thursday 8:30am-5:00pm, and Friday 8:30am-12:30pm.
- You may also call +232 0991 05500 during normal business hours, +232 76 912 708 during after-hours.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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